HIGHWORTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Maidstone Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8UD
Telephone: 01233 624910 Fax: 01233 612028
E-mail: office@highworth.kent.sch.uk
Website: www.highworth.kent.sch.uk

APPOINTMENT OF SCIENCE TEACHER
Maternity Cover – 0.6 FTE

Highworth Grammar School is a successful 11-18 selective girls' school with approximately 113 boys in the Sixth Form. There are 1493 students on roll – 1,038 in Years 7-11 and 455 in Years 12 and 13. Our school is widely recognised as being innovative and highly successful. Highworth has a strong academic reputation and our students are recognised as mature and reliable young people. We aim to deliver the best possible education to all of our students in a safe and secure environment

Our motto of 'Reach for the Stars' embodies the daily working life of the whole school community; students are encouraged to see learning as a lifelong activity. A key feature of our motto is happiness which achieved through excellent student behaviour in lessons; clear policies and guidance; strong leadership; and enthusiastic community spirit. It is important that both staff and students feel confident, happy and valued.

Students at Highworth are given rewards for creativity, problem solving, achievement resilience and team work. We value the development of a full range of skills to offer students the best preparation for future challenges. Working here allows staff to share this balanced approach to education; embrace new ideas; and sustain a sense of enjoyment in their own learning.

We are a Music Specialist Status school and we are proud of the many opportunities provided for achievement in music and the arts. We believe this is crucial in our ethos in encouraging our students to be independent, creative and highly motivated lifelong learners.

During the June 2013 Ofsted Inspection the school was judged as an Outstanding School. Last summer our A Level results placed us in the top 25% of schools nationally.

FEATURES OF THE SCHOOL
These include:
- Vertical Tutoring
- High academic standards with a large proportion of outstanding lessons
- Caring, supportive and committed staff
- Commitment to professional development
- State of the art IT facilities
- 10 dedicated Science labs
- 3 Performing Arts studios
- Music Technology suite and recording studio
- DT suite with latest technology
- Research into use of new technologies/pedagogy
- Department areas suited
- Cover supervisors to minimise staff cover
- 10 day timetable with five one hour lessons per day. Current maximum teaching time for full time teachers is 45 out of 50 teaching periods

Students

The school has a wide catchment area, taking students from over 40 primary schools, many of which are situated in small villages within the Kent countryside. Entry at age 11 is by the Kent Education Committee Selection Procedure, which aims to identify the top 25% of the ability range. Some students transfer to our school at 16+ from other schools.

Staff

We are fully committed to the professional development of all our staff. All new teachers and NQTs follow a well informed and structured induction programme. All staff are encouraged to pursue personal goals and the school fully embraces interest in pastoral and pedagogical innovation. Every member of staff takes part in the annual performance development scheme which also embodies our motto of Reach for the stars.

Curriculum

Our curriculum at Key Stage 3 includes all the National Curriculum subjects (Art & Design, English with Drama, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Languages - French, German and Spanish, Music, Physical Education, Dance, Religious Education, Design Technology, Computing and Science).

An options system operates in Key Stage 4 (Year 9 – Year 11) and students have the opportunity to gain up to twelve GCSE grades in Year 11.

We offer all Key Stage 3 subjects through to A Level together with Business Studies, Dance, Economics, Film Studies, Further Mathematics, Government & Politics, Media, Photography, Psychology, Sociology and Theatre Studies.

In the current Year 12, students take three or four A Level subjects, continuing with at least three to full A level. They can also take the Extended Project and qualify for the AQA Bacc. The majority of our students proceed to courses at Universities and in the last academic year all students who made applications, successfully found suitable places in higher education.

THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Science department consists of 16 teachers and 4 technicians working in 10 laboratories and 7 prep rooms. All labs have data projectors and class sets of iPads and Chrome books are available.

Key Stage 3

The Collins Science scheme is used as a starting point for our delivery of the KS3 Programme of Study in Years 7 and 8. There is a strong emphasis on practical work. There are 6 periods per fortnight in Years 7 and 8. Students are taught in Community groups.

Key Stage 4

All students start studying the AQA Separate Sciences in Year 9 as a 3 year course. This year we have about 40 Year 11 students who have converted to Trilogy Science, with the remainder continuing to study for the Separate Sciences. Classes are taught by subject specialists and, timetabling permitting, each class will have one teacher per subject.

There are 3 periods per fortnight in Year 9 for each Science and 4 per fortnight in Years 10 and 11. The GCSE results for June 2018 are shown below:

	% of total entries		
	BIOLOGY	**CHEMISTRY**	**PHYSICS**
9-7	76.4	74.3	61.8
9-5	97.3	96.6	92.3
9-4	100	99.4	99.2

Key Stage 5

A level Sciences are very popular. We currently offer AQA A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are 5 sets of A Level Biology, 4 of Chemistry and 2 of Physics in Year 12, which will continue into Year 13 as students follow a 2 year course. The A Level results for June 2018 are shown below:

	% of total entries		
	BIOLOGY	**CHEMISTRY**	**PHYSICS**
A*-B	53.3	57.6	56.2
A*-E	98.7	100	100

Highworth Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people. This post will require an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)